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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test
Series Month-wise

October
MockDrill
PDF No. 5
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 15th November 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

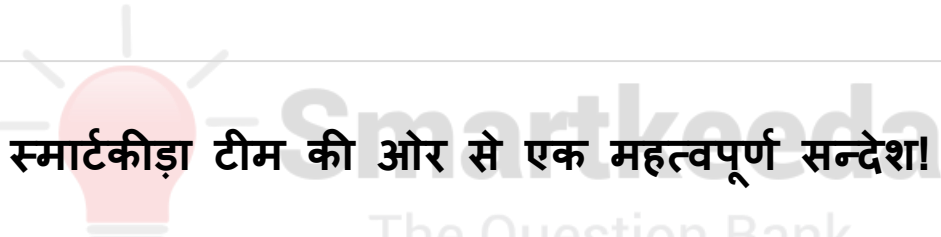
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of October 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अक्टूबर 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढ़ना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

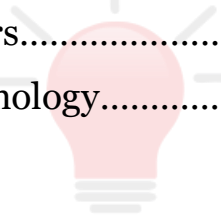
आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

201. On October 4, The world's third and India's first public transport ropeway is proposed to be constructed from Cantt Railway Station in Varanasi Junction to Church Square (Godauliya) to ease the traffic congestion. The commencement of this ropeway will give easy access to Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Dashashwamedh Ghat. The total distance of 4.2 km will be fixed in about 15 minutes. The central government will support the 80% of the cost while the remaining 20% will be borne by state government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World's 3rd & India's 1st Public Transport Ropeway is proposed to be constructed – in Varanasi, UP
- 80% of the cost to be borne by – Central Gov. & 20% of the cost to be borne by – State Gov.
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

202. On October 4, Indian Railways announced that the new 2.05 km 'Pamban Railway Bridge' in Mandapam, which will connect Rameswaram to the mainland in Tamil Nadu, will be operational from March, 2022. The existing Pamban Rail Bridge, which connects Rameswaram to mainland India, is 105 years old. It will be India's first vertical lift railway bridge over the sea and is likely to cost ₹250 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2.05 km 'Pamban Railway Bridge' in Mandapam (Tamil Nadu) will be operational – from March, 2022
- India's first vertical lift railway bridge will connect Rameswaram to the mainland in Tamil Nadu | Cost – Rs 250 Cr
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

203. On October 4, Mansukh L. Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare launched "i-Drone" (ICMR's Drone Response and Outreach in North East). This is a delivery model to make sure that life-saving vaccines reach everyone. This is for the first time that a 'Make in India' drone has been used in South Asia to transport COVID vaccine in Manipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya – launched "i-Drone" (ICMR's Drone Response & Outreach in North East)
- For the first time, a 'Make in India' drone is used in South Asia to transport COVID vaccine – in Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan

204. An Integrated Flyover-cum-Metro Viaduct Structure along with a vehicle underpass is being built in Delhi on the Majlis Park-Maujpur corridor under the Phase-IV work. This will be the first-ever integrated 'flyover-cum-metro viaduct structure' in the history of the mass rapid transit system (MRTS). This 12.098 km-long corridor will comprise eight stations, and will be completely elevated. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First-ever Integrated Flyover-cum-Metro Viaduct Structure – being built in Delhi
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev



205. Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri announced that Union government approved Oil and Gas Projects worth Rs 1 lakh Cr for Northeast India and they are expected to be completed by 2025. It is planned to double the exploration acreage in Northeast Region (NER) from existing 30,000 Sq. Kms to 60,000 Sq. Kms by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government approved 'Oil & Gas Projects' worth Rs 1 lakh Cr for Northeast India (expected to be completed by 2025)
- Aim: To double the exploration acreage in NER to 60,000 Sq. Kms by 2025 (from existing 30,000 Sq. Kms)

206. PM Narendra Modi virtually dedicated to the nation the Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET), located in Rajasthan's Jaipur. On this occasion, PM Modi also laid the foundation stone of a medical college each in Banswara, Dausa, Hanumangarh and Sirohi districts of Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – dedicated to the nation the Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET)
- CIPET is located in – Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

207. The Defence Accounts Department under the aegis of the Ministry of Defence has developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system called "PRABAL" to ensure that the domestic defence suppliers get payments without any delay. The Defence Accounts Department observes its foundation day on 1st of October every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Accounts Department – developed an IT-enabled payment & accounting system called "PRABAL"

208. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) has come up with the detailed procedure for setting up of Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF), as per "Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules 2021". The rules are applicable to all automobile collection centres, automobile dismantling centres, scrapping and recycling facilities, and recyclers. The registration of an RVSF will be valid for 10 years and can be renewed for 10 more years at a time. The scrapping centres will be provided access to the 'Vahan Database'. Further, these centre will be authorised to make entries regarding scrapping of a vehicle, as well as to issue a Certificate of Deposit and a Certificate of Scrapping. Categorization of Industrial Sectors was done under 4 Categories - Red, Orange, Green & White based on the Pollution Index (PI). The Pollution Index of any Industrial Sector is a number from 0 to 100. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRTH – to set up "Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF)" as per "Motor Vehicles Rules 2021"
- The registration of an RVSF will be valid for – 10 years
- Categorization of Industrial Sectors was done under 4 Categories – Red, Orange, Green & White
- Pollution Index (PI) of any Industrial Sector is a number – from 0 to 100
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh



209. On October 7, At the “MSME Tech-Fin Mobility Summit” organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), MSME Secretary B. B. Swain announced that Zero-cost MSME registration portal “Udyam Registration” has crossed 50 lakh (5 million) registrations in nearly 15 months since its launch on July 1, 2020. The objective of the portal is to provide a single-page registration, consume less time and simplify processes of registering any enterprise as a MSME. Moreover, ‘Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act’ was passed in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “MSME Tech-Fin Mobility Summit” – organised by CII
- 50 lakh (5 million) MSMEs registered on the ‘Udyam’ portal in nearly 15 months since its launch on July 1, 2020
- ‘MSME Development Act’ was passed in 2006

210. In October 2021, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released the “Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) Toolbox” in five Indian languages - Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. MUDRA Toolbox is a comprehensive tool specifically to diagnose dementia in the Indian population. MUDRA Toolbox is an initiative undertaken by ICMR Neuro-Cognitive Tool Box (ICMR -NCTB) consortium to transform India’s dementia and mild cognitive impairment research and clinical practices. It is a collective effort by seven leading centers in India NIMHANS (Bengaluru), AIIMS (New Delhi), SCTIMST (Thiruvananthapuram), NIMS (Hyderabad), Apollo Hospital (Kolkata), Manipal Hospital (Bengaluru) and Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICMR – released ‘MUDRA Toolbox’ in 5 Indian languages to diagnose dementia
- MUDRA Toolbox initiative – undertaken by ‘ICMR Neuro-Cognitive Tool Box consortium’
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911

211. In October 2021, To celebrate the 75th year of independence, NITI Aayog’s flagship initiative, The Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP), will felicitate 75 women achievers as part of the Amrit Mahotsav celebration. Women Transforming India Awards (WTI) 2021 will celebrate the contribution of women entrepreneurs towards ‘Sashakt aur Samarath Bharat’. The WTI Awards is NITI Aayog’s endeavour to recognise and celebrate stories of exceptional women change-makers. WTI Awards have been hosted under the aegis of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform with a focus on ‘Women and Entrepreneurship’. This year, the WTI Awards are being launched in partnership with the UN, CISCO CSR, FICCI & Grant Thornton Bharat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Women Entrepreneurship Platform (NITI Aayog) – hosted the “WTI Awards”
- WEP will felicitate – 75 women achievers as part of the ‘Amrit Mahotsav Celebrations’
- WTI Awards launched in partnership with – UN, CISCO CSR, FICCI & Grant Thornton Bharat
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | VC – Rajiv Kumar



International Affairs

212. On October 4, The Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) has launched its programme in Seychelles. India was chosen as the partner administration and has provided tax expert for this programme. TIWB is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). This programme is the 6th TIWB programme which India has supported by providing tax expert. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tax Inspectors Without Borders – launched its programme in Seychelles
- India – chosen as the Partner Administration by providing tax expert (6th TIWB programme supported by India)
- TIWB – a joint initiative of UNDP & OECD

213. In October 2021, Venezuela has introduced a new currency with 6 fewer zeros. The million-to-1 change for the bolivar is intended to ease both cash transactions and bookkeeping calculations in bolivars. This is the third time Venezuela's socialist leaders have lopped zeros off the currency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Venezuela – introduced a new currency with 6 fewer zeros
- Venezuela – Caracas – Bolivar | President – Nicolas Maduro



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Banking & Economic Affairs

214. On October 4, In exercise of the powers conferred under 'Section 45-IE (1)' of the "Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934", the RBI has superseded the Board of Directors of two NBFCs - Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited (SIFL) and Srei Equipment Finance Limited (SEFL), owing to governance concerns and defaults in meeting their various payment obligations. The RBI has appointed Rajneesh Sharma (Ex-Chief General Manager of Bank of Baroda) as an Administrator to run these entities till NCLT process kicks in. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI superseded the Board of Directors of two NBFCs:
 - Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited (SIFL) & Srei Equipment Finance Limited (SEFL)
- Rajneesh Sharma – appointed as an Administrator of SIFL & SEFL
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

215. On October 5, Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) has received approval from the government for collection of direct and indirect taxes. With this, the bank becomes the first scheduled private sector bank to receive approval. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank – first scheduled private sector bank to receive approval for collection of direct & indirect taxes
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”

216. Muthoot Finance has joined hands with Senseforth AI Research Pvt Ltd to launch “Mattu”, an AI-powered virtual assistant. The intelligent assistant enables users to apply for loans, address concerns, perform various transactions and much more. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Muthoot Finance + Senseforth.ai = to launch an AI-powered virtual assistant “Mattu”
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot
- HQs of Senseforth.ai – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Shridhar Marri

217. The RBI has released its web publication entitled “Quarterly Basic Statistical Returns (BSR)-1: Outstanding Credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), June 2021” on its ‘Database on Indian Economy (DBIE)’ portal. Bank credit registered a 5.8% growth (y-o-y) in June 2021 (Q1 FY22) from 5.1% in Q4 of FY21. Personal loans growth accelerated to 14.8% on y-o-y basis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI released “Quarterly Basic Statistical Returns (BSR)-1: Outstanding Credit of SCBs, June 2021”
- Bank credit registered 5.8% growth in June 2021 (Q1 FY22)
- Personal loans registered a 14.8% growth in June 2021 (Q1 FY22)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

218. The SEBI has decided to introduce the concept of ‘swing pricing’ for all open-ended debt mutual fund schemes except overnight funds, gilt funds and Gilt with 10-year maturity funds. The framework will be applicable from March 1, 2022. Swing pricing is a mechanism by which fund houses can adjust a scheme’s net asset value (NAV) in response to the flows into or out of the fund. The SEBI has decided to implement ‘swing pricing’ only on redemptions above Rs 2 lakh from the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – to introduce the concept of ‘Swing Pricing’ for all open-ended debt mutual fund schemes – from March 1, 2022
- SEBI decided to implement ‘swing pricing’ only on redemptions above Rs 2 lakh from the MFs Scheme
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

219. In October 2021, Vested Finance, a platform for investing in foreign stocks for Indians has tied up with SBM Bank, the Indian subsidiary of State Bank of Mauritius for facilitating forex transfers. Vested users will be able to open accounts with SBM Bank and transfer money abroad at low costs. Clients transferring money to their US brokerage account will not face a fixed charge. They will only face a forex mark-up of 1.2%. Also, Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) was introduced by the RBI to facilitate Resident Individuals up to USD 2,50,000 outside India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Vested Finance + SBM Bank India = for facilitating forex transfers at low cost (forex mark-up of 1.2%)
- Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) was introduced by – RBI
- HQs of Vested Finance – San Francisco, USA | CEO – Viram Shah
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India – the 1st foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI

220. In October 2021, Reserve Bank of India has authorised 'Karur Vysya Bank' to collect direct taxes on behalf of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). The bank customers can remit the direct taxes through any branch or through net banking or mobile banking services (DLite Mobile application). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karur Vysya Bank – got approval from RBI to collect direct taxes on behalf of CBDT
- “DLite” - a mobile application of Karur Vysya Bank
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in – 1944
- HQs of KVB – Karur, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – B. Ramesh Babu
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

221. In October 2021, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) withdrew all restrictions imposed on Hindu Cooperative Bank Limited, Pathankot. Also, RBI has imposed a penalty of ₹1 lakh on 'The Kurla Nagarik Sahakari Bank Ltd' (KNS Bank), Mumbai for contravention certain norms related to Depositor Education & Awareness Fund Scheme, 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – withdrew all restrictions imposed on 'Hindu Cooperative Bank Limited' (Pathankot, Punjab)
- RBI imposed a penalty of – ₹1 lakh on 'The Kurla Nagarik Sahakari Bank Ltd' (Mumbai, Maharashtra)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

Schemes & Initiatives

222. The Central government has extended the “Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt” (CGSSD) by another 6 months till March 31, 2022. The scheme was launched on 24th June, 2020 to provide credit facility through lending institutions to the promoters of stressed MSMEs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt” (CGSSD) – extended by another 6 months (till March 31, 2022)



223. On October 5, The Ministry of Textiles has approved continuation of “Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)” up to March 2022 with a total outlay of ₹160 Cr. CHCDS aims to create world-class infrastructure that caters to the business needs of the local artisans & SMEs to boost production and export. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Textiles – extended “Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)” till March 2022
- Total outlay of the CHCDS – ₹160 Cr
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh

Sports & Games

224. In October 2021, The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) allotted the right of hosting the “South Asian Cross Country Championship (SACCC) 2022” to Nagaland. Scheduled to be held at Kohima in January 2022, top athletes from 8 south Asian countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Maldives will participate in the event. AFI has also allotted the 56th “National Cross Country Championships 2022” to Nagaland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nagaland – to host the “South Asian Cross Country Championship (SACCC) 2022” – in Kohima
- Nagaland – will also host the 56th “National Cross Country Championships 2022”
- Athletes from 8 South Asian Countries will participate in the Championship
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- HQs of AFI – New Delhi

Important Days & Dates

225. The National Mission for Clean Ganga celebrates 5th October as National Ganga River Dolphin Day to raise awareness and encourage conservation of Ganga River Dolphins. Ganga Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals in 2010.

Key Points:

- October 5 – “National Ganga River Dolphin Day” – by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)
- NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – Rajiv Ranjan Mishra

226. In October 2021, The 4th edition of the “International E-Waste Day” took place on 14 October 2021. This year’s International E-Waste Day’s focus was “Consumer is the key to Circular Economy”. International E-Waste Day is annually organised by Waste Electrical & electronic equipment (WEEE) to promote the proper way to dispose of e-waste. The 1st edition was organised in 2018. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- October 14 – 4th edition of International E-Waste Day by – WEEE (since - 2018)
- 2021's focus – “Consumer is the key to Circular Economy”
- HQs of WEEE – Brussels, Belgium | President – Jan Vlak | Founded in – 2002

227. In October 2021, “World Food Day” is celebrated on October 16. It is an initiative by the Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. This day marks the anniversary of the founding of the FAO. This year, the World Food Day commemoration was jointly led by the FAO, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, & the World Food Programme (WFP). This year's theme was “Our actions are our future. Better Production, Better Nutrition, Better Environment & a Better Life”. World Food Day was established in November 1979. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – World Food Day by – FAO (since - 1979)
- 2021's Theme – “Our actions are our future. Better Production, Better Nutrition, Better Environment & a Better Life”
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The Question Bank

228. PM Narendra Modi participated in a 3-day Urban Conclave Programme and inaugurated “Azadi@75 - New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape” Conference-cum-Expo in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. It was organised by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) from October 5 to 7, 2021. PM Modi digitally handed over the keys of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) houses to 75,000 beneficiaries in 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh. PM Modi laid the foundation stone of 75 Urban Development Projects of Uttar Pradesh under ‘Smart Cities Mission’ and ‘AMRUT’ Scheme, flagged off 75 buses under ‘FAME-II’ for 7 cities and released a Coffee Table Book encompassing 75 projects implemented under various Flagship Missions of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. He also announced the setting up of ‘Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chair’ in Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU), Lucknow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – inaugurated “Azadi@75 - New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape” Conference in Lucknow
- The Conference-cum-Expo was organised by – MoHUA
- PM Modi – laid the foundation stone of 75 Urban Development Projects of Uttar Pradesh
- PM Modi – flagged off 75 buses under ‘FAME-II’ for 7 cities of Uttar Pradesh
- PM Modi – announced the setting up of ‘Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chair’ at BBAU in Lucknow, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

229. The “Lasker Awards for 2021” were given by the Lasker Foundation to scientists whose work was crucial for Covid-19 vaccines, scientists who discovered how to control the firing of neurons with beams of light, and to a researcher whose influential work and leadership changed Medical Science. It is America’s top Biomedical Research Prize. The prize was given under 3 categories - Katalin Kariko received the “Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award”, Karl Deisseroth received the “Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award” & David Baltimore received the “Lasker-Koshland Special Achievement Award in Medical Science”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Lasker Awards for 2021” - America’s top Biomedical Research Prize was given under 3 categories:
 - Katalin Kariko – received “Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award”
 - Karl Deisseroth – received “Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award”
 - David Baltimore – received “Lasker-Koshland Special Achievement Award in Medical Science”

230. The “2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry” has been awarded to German scientist Benjamin List of the Max Planck Institute and Scotland-born scientist David W. C. MacMillan of Princeton University ‘for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis’. Developed by the duo in 2000, this novel technique of catalysis is an efficient, precise, cheap, fast and environmentally friendly way to develop new molecules. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry” – conferred ‘for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis’
 - Benjamin List ([Germany](#))
 - David W. C. MacMillan ([Scotland](#))

231. In October 2021, WHO has honoured the late Henrietta Lacks with WHO Director-General’s award, a recognition for the world-changing legacy of a black American woman whose cancer cells were taken as biopsies without her consent while she sought treatment. Her cells have led to crucial medical breakthroughs & provided the foundation for vast scientific inventions, including research about the coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Henrietta Lacks – honoured with “WHO Director-General’s Award” (Posthumously)
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



Appointments & Resignations

232. On October 5, Mankind Pharma has roped in Vijay Sethupathi as its brand ambassador to represent the brand in the southern market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijay Sethupathi – roped in as the brand ambassador of Mankind Pharma
- HQs of Mankind Pharma – New Delhi | Founder & Chairman – R. C. Juneja | CEO – Sheetal Arora

233. Sanjay Bhargava will head Elon Musk’s Starlink satellite broadband venture in India. Sanjay joined SpaceX as Starlink’s country director (India), effective October 1, 2021. Sanjay had worked with Elon Musk as part of a team that had founded electronic payment firm, PayPal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Bhargava – appointed as Starlink’s Country Director (India) – to head Starlink satellite broadband venture in India
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002

234. On October 7, Eric Braganza (President of Haier India) has taken over as the new President of the Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA) for the 2021-23 period. The consumer durables industry is expected to almost double in the next 5-6 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Eric Braganza – appointed as President of Consumer Electronics & Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA)
- HQs of CEAMA – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | President – Eric Braganza

235. In October 2021, Crisil’s president and chief operating officer Amish Mehta will take over as the MD & CEO. He will be replacing Ashu Suyash. CRISIL, India’s first credit rating agency, was incorporated in 1987. In April 2005, US based credit rating agency S&P acquired the majority shares of company. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amish Mehta – appointed as MD & CEO of CRISIL (replacing - Ashu Suyash)
- The majority shares of CRISIL were acquired by S&P Global Ratings in April 2005
- HQs of CRISIL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Amish Mehta | Established in – 1987

236. In October 2021, The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as the Managing Director & CEO of Axis Bank, with effect from January 1, 2022 till December 31, 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Chaudhry – re-appointed as MD & CEO of Axis Bank (tenure extended for 3 years)
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”



237. In October 2021, Navrang Saini, who is a Whole Time Member of IBBI, has been given the additional charge as the Chairperson of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) for 3 months. The post fell vacant after M.S. Sahoo retired after five-year tenure on September 30. IBBI is a key institution in implementing the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), which came into force in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Navrang Saini – appointed as the Chairperson of the IBBI (addi. charge) | Replacing – M.S. Sahoo
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Navrang Saini | Established in – 2016

238. In October 2021, “Jonas Gahr Store” assumed the office of Prime Minister of Norway. He is from Norway’s Labor Party. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jonas Gahr Store (The Labor Party) – became new PM of Norway (replacing - Erna Solberg)
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

239. In October 2021, Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen swore in Alexander Schallenberg, currently the Foreign Minister, as Chancellor after Sebastian Kurz resigned amid corruption allegations. Alexander Schallenberg served as the Austria’s Foreign Minister since 2019. Diplomat Michael Linhart became the Austria’s new Foreign Minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alexander Schallenberg – appointed as chancellor of Austria (Replacing Sebastian Kurz)
- Michael Linhart – became Austria’s new Foreign Minister
- Austria – Vienna – Euro | President – Alexander Van der Bellen | Chancellor – Alexander Schallenberg

240. In October 2021, World Steel Association (WSA) has elected Sajjan Jindal, Chairman & Managing Director of JSW Steel Ltd, as Chairman for the year 2021-22. He is the 1st representative from India to serve as Chairman of the WSA. Also, Yu Yong is appointed as the vice-chairman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sajjan Jindal (CMD of JSW Steel Ltd) – appointed as Chairman of WSA for 2021-22 (1st representative from India)
- Yu Yong – appointed as the Vice-Chairman of WSA
- HQs of JSW Group – Mumbai, MH | CMD – Sajjan Jindal
- HQs of WSA – Brussels, Belgium | Chairman – Sajjan Jindal



Amount & Agreements

241. In October 2021, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced to deliver climate financing of \$100 billion to its developing member countries (DMCs) from 2019-2030. In 2018, ADB committed to ensuring at least 75% of the total number of its operations support climate action and its own climate finance resources reach at least a cumulative \$80 billion by 2030. The additional \$20 billion will provide support for the climate agenda in five main areas: 1) New avenues for climate mitigation. 2) A scale-up of transformative adaptation projects. 3) An increase in climate finance in ADB's private sector operations. 4) Support for a green, resilient, and inclusive recovery from COVID-19. 5) Support to advance reforms in DMCs to unlock actions through policy-based lending. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – to deliver climate financing of \$100 billion to its developing member countries from 2019-2030
- Additional \$20 billion will provide support for the climate agenda in 5 main areas
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

242. On October 5, 41 Industrial Parks have been assessed as 'Leaders' in the 2nd edition of the "Industrial Park Ratings System Report (IPRS)" or "IPRS 2.0" released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). 90 Industrial Parks have been rated as under 'Challenger' category while 185 have been rated as under 'Aspirers'. The report was launched by was launched by the Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Som Prakash. The IPRS was launched in 2018 by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd "Industrial Park Ratings System Report (IPRS)" or "IPRS 2.0" released by the DPIIT (under Ministry of C&I)
- 'Leaders' - 41 Industrial Parks | 'Challenger' - 90 Industrial Parks | 'Aspirers' - 185 Industrial Parks
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash

243. On October 5, Mansukh L. Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare released UNICEF's global flagship publication - "The State of the World's Children 2021; On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children's mental health". The report details the significant impact of COVID-19 pandemic on children's mental health. The 'State of the World's Children 2021' has found that around 14% of 15 to 24-year-olds in India, or 1 in 7, reported often feeling depressed or having little interest in doing things. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya – released UNICEF's "The State of the World's Children 2021" report
- 14% of 15 to 24-year-olds in India (or 1 in 7) – reported often feeling depressed
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946



244. In October 2021, Only 25 of the total central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) in India have been tagged as “Excellent” in a performance review conducted by the department of public enterprises (DPE) for 2019-2020, down by 10 from last year’s figure. 28 units were marked as “Poor”. Of the remaining, 18 have been categorised as “Very Good”, 66 as “Good” & 30 as “Fair”. CPSEs are companies in which 51% or more of the direct holding belongs to the central government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DPE conducted – performance review of CPSEs
- No. of CPSEs got ratings as: Excellent – 25 | Very Good – 18 | Good – 66 | Fair – 30 | Poor – 28

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

245. In October 2021, India and Russia signed a long-term Memorandum of Understanding on DAP fertiliser supply to stabilise prices and minimize dependence on countries such as Jordan, Morocco, China, etc. India has investigated other sources for procuring DAP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Russia = an MoU on DAP fertiliser supply
- Rs 79,600 Cr – allocated by Central Gov for fertilizer subsidy in the budget for FY22
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

246. In October 2021, ‘Sona BLW Precision Forgings’ has collaborated with ‘FutureSkills Prime’ to reskill/upskill graduates & professionals in emerging technologies to make India a global digital talent nation. FutureSkills Prime is the first-of-its-kind public-private cooperation between the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) & NASSCOM to create a digital skilling ecosystem for India’s citizens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sona BLW Precision Forgings + FutureSkills Prime = to upskill graduates & professionals in emerging technologies
- ‘FutureSkills Prime’ – an initiative between MeitY + NASSCOM – to create a Digital Skilling Ecosystem in India
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnav | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman – Rekha M. Menon | Vice-Chairman – Krishnan Ramanujam



Books & Authors

247. Wole Soyinka's "Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth" is his first novel in 48 years and only the third in his long career. This book is at once political satire and murder mystery, and a lament for the spirit of his native Nigeria. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth" novel – authored by Wole Soyinka

Science & Technology

248. In October 2021, Researchers from the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS); Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Indian Institute of Science; and the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bengaluru, have discovered 12 new species of geckos from the Western Ghats. The researchers have named one of the new species after Jackie Chan as 'Cnemaspis jackieii' or 'Jackie's Day Gecko' for its ability to move rapidly and sneak into the smallest crevices to escape. The study was published in the international journal 'Zoological Research'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers discovered 12 new species of geckos from the Western Ghats
- Researchers named one of the new species after Jackie Chan as 'Cnemaspis jackieii' or 'Jackie's Day Gecko'
- The study was published in – international journal 'Zoological Research'

249. In October 2021, The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has launched a 'One Health' consortium for surveillance of important bacterial, viral and parasitic infections of zoonotic as well as transboundary pathogens in India. It is First 'One Health' project of the DBT. 'One Health Consortium' consisting of 27 organisations led by DBT-National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad. One Health Consortium is one of the biggest health programmes launched by the government in post-Covid times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBT – launched 'One Health' consortium for surveillance of important bacterial, viral & parasitic infections
- 'One Health Consortium' consists of 27 organisations – led by DBT-NIAB, Hyderabad
- [Secretary of Department of Biotechnology – Dr Rajesh S Gokhale](#)

250. In October 2021, China launched its first sun observation satellite, Xihe to monitor solar eruptions. The satellite was sent by a Long March 2D rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre into a 571 km-altitude orbit, where it is expected to monitor the sun for three years. China also launched Shenzhou-13 spacecraft carrying 3 Chinese astronauts docked Saturday at its space station. The spacecraft was launched by a Long March-2F rocket. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- China – launched its first sun observation satellite - Xihe (by 'Long March 2D' rocket)
- China – also launched 'Shenzhou-13' spacecraft carrying 3 Chinese astronauts
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping





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